The Disunity of White Women

Against Collaboration and Transmisogyny

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The hetero-settler nation remains the political center of gravity here in the 2020's. While wannabe radicals find any neocolonial male warlord to throw their support behind, the hetero-settler nation continues to roll over the rest of us. In our new world of repression and resistance the Prairieland case has lit signalfires all over the country. A group of mixed white and latinx, some trans, anarchists have each received 30–100 year sentences for little more than owning a box of anarcho zines. While revs around the empire try and figure out what exactly this means for us, calls for the defense of the Prairieland 9 have proliferated. Only there's one problem. One defendant, a white trans woman named Meagan Morris, is a snitch.

This is, dialectically, both complicated and fairly straight forward. We will get into all the various reasons why a trans woman might feel the kind of disconnect from her comrades and sisters that allows someone to snitch. We will break down the ways that male supremacy writ large and transmisogyny specifically have been allowed to fester in radical left spaces and have informed this case. We will look at transmisogynistic responses to Morris' betrayal and the way that male chauvinist radicals (men and women and NB alike) downplay the dangers trans women face in male prisons. This is the mess we will wade through.

First and foremost though: white radicals snitch because we can, as Marilyn Buck taught us, return to the settler fold at any time, at least up to now. When the going gets tough settler rads either disappear or, if they get caught, throw whoever they can under the bus in order to get life back to normal. Even the most despised members of settler society, in this instance a trans woman, have it ingrained in us to reach back towards the hetero-settler nest and go home when times get hard. Interestingly enough it didn't seem to work for Morris, who did not get a lighter sentence despite flipping immediately and giving up her own girlfriend. We'll explore what that means also.

Women and the Male Left

As of this writing the situation for the left is at a 15 year low. After a decade of New Afrikan uprisings culminated in the 2020 George Floyd-Breonna Taylor rebellion, after fascist organizing sparked the most widespread antifascist street-fighting movement in decades, after the fabric of everyday life was torn by the pandemic, the decidedly male dominated communist and anarchist left completely failed to build on any of the developments of the 2010's. They had plenty of opportunities, even after the nadir of 2022 was briefly overshadowed by the Palestine solidarity movement after October 7th, 2023. But that too quickly degenerated amongst widespread repression, petty bourgeois opportunism, and outright male chauvinism. You can throw a funeral for Nasrallah in NYC if you want, it doesn't mean anyone's going to give a shit.

Since 2021 there have been radical women trying to shine light on this situation. When the energy of the 2020 uprising was diverted into the existing left, itself largely a holdover from the 2010's, new recruits found their rebellious energy stifled amidst an environment of rank male supremacy. Women who had been politically activated for the first time were thrown into groups with men who had been preying on women for years and years. Groups like the PSL and FRSO and men like Jared Rourk and Fergie Chambers all used the cover of a radical social movement to abuse women. This and plainly this is the primary reason for the collapse of the left in the last six years. State repression is an element but, as the old man taught us, the internal factors are primary.

Trans women have experienced this generalized misogyny in a much more pointed manner. The transmisogyny of the movement has been overwhelming and in some instances violent. The old Red Guards, despite at one point being made up significantly of trans women, eventually took a hostile stance towards trans women. This hostility was eventually revealed to be violent when the org dissolved in 2022 and the abuses within it were revealed. PSL, who even old school New Afrikan nationalists have recently latched onto, happily de-genders and expels any trans woman who tries to object to being sexually harassed within the party. Fergie Chambers, who we are all apparently duty bound to defend (don't laugh!) regularly blames us trannies for the degeneration of the Palestine solidarity movement.

State sponsored transfemicide has ramped up continuously since we started to see glimpses of it out of Florida and Texas in 2022. The current american regime has turned it into one of their favorite weapons. State after state has instituted sports bans, bathroom bans, revoked passports and drivers licenses, and shipped trans women off to male prisons to be raped en masse, a policy known as v-coding (the practice of housing trans women in cells with sexually violent male prisoners so as to subject them to rape). The feds have even recently classified both "gender extremism" and "transgender ideology-inspired violent extremism" as causes of terrorism, along with any connection to the nebulously defined "antifa" movement. To be a transsexual woman really is to be consigned to outlaw status, and some of our settler sisters miss home.

Trans women of color like Jaia Cruz are attacked in broad daylight, and when they kill their attackers in self defense they are shipped to male prisons. There is a small support movement for Cruz, nearly entirely from other trans women of color, but the male left hasn't lifted a finger. Even the revitalized movement in support for political prisoners has nothing to say about women like Cruz. We are expected to shell out to defend rightist millionaire Fergie Chambers, too dimwitted and obsessed with his own fame to not get caught slipping, rather than for a young trans woman of color who defended herself. For all the talk of increasing militancy (even and especially by other trans women), the number of murdered trans women increases every week.

This is just a brief 30,000 foot view of the playing field over the last few years, something to give the reader an idea of just what a radical trans woman would be looking down the barrel of. It is something that we have pointed to in our articulation of a new transfeminist separatism, the necessity of all women (not just trans women) splitting off from the male left to fight for a genuine liberation. In our articulation of this we have also pointed to the fact that such a movement would necessarily have to clean house, would have to deal with spies and collaborators and predators internal to our own movement. We pointed to the call that the authors of the radical amazon newspaper *Bottomfish Blues* made in the late 80's: sisterhood demands the disunity of white women.

So on the one hand it does not surprise us that a trans woman, faced with the complete unraveling of her own life in connection to people who very likely did not respect her, would open up to the pigs. It's not smart, ultimately Morris only succeeded in handing over her girlfriend Autumn Hill, herself trans, to be thrown in a male prison as well. But it isn't surprising. The kind of lumpen-petty-bourgeois position that being a white trans woman puts you in gives you both the individualism to desperately try and save your own skin while also giving you the confidence that you can always go home again. That neither thing happened is just a sick irony of the situation.

Settler trans women are in a unique position. On the one hand we have the least to lose amongst our diseased nation, and so in militant movements we often times take up vanguard po-

sitions, sacrificing the most compared to everyone else. On the other hand we still have the bone deep connection to whiteness that hinders all white radicals. It is not remotely uncommon for a settler trans sister to be working overtime on the front line and to have comrades who absolutely refuse to understand the extended risk she is taking. It is also not remotely uncommon for that same sister to reproduce settler attitudes and dynamics when women of color are involved.

Movement people who cannot see this reality are going to fuck this up again. When this case dropped some of the responses we heard amounted to "well if you just serve your time and stand by your cause you can earn respect in a male prison, it's actually bourgeois to claim that trans women are uniquely threatened by men in prisons." This typical macho attitude is prevalent amongst male leftists. In a useless attempt to counter bourgeois propaganda about who is in prison and why, they refuse to look reality in the face, instead falling back on male supremacist cliches. It is widely reported and understood that trans women are v-coded in prison. That means that trans women are shipped to male prisons and intentionally housed with sexually violent men (the majority of men in this society, let's be clear) so that they can be raped and keep inter-prisoner hostility down.

Any movement that is going to risk having its members go to prison (which is all of our movements now, from the most milquetoast social democrats to the insurrectionary anarchists) has to be able to deal with reality. Whether or not you plan on operating illegally you must be prepared, your orgs must prepare you for the reality of incarceration, especially if you are a trans woman. There is no simply telling people to shut the fuck up without also dealing with forced detransition and mass rape. Anyone denying this reality is complicit in it.

An Infestation of Fire Ants

The statement by the Fire Ant Movement, Manufactured Betrayal, is a disaster for the development of any revolutionary movement. Aside from unfounded claims that Meagan Morris was tortured (it seems she began talking right away) it also claims that Morris has realized her mistake and must be allowed back into the fold and, crucially, supported by the DFW Support Committee. This takes one of the most basic survival mechanisms for any radical movement, non-cooperation with the state and the isolation or correction of collaborators, and attempts to do away with it entirely. An anonymous group calling themselves Communists and Anarchists for Revolutionary Anti-Repression has already written a lengthy and solid response to Fire Ant that we will link to. Consider this the revolutionary feminist addition to their work.

While we see it as ultimately necessary for settler women to abandon cross-gender organizing and resolve the gendered contradiction through militant action, to overthrow men as a class and patriarchy as a civilization, that break cannot under any circumstances take the route through the state. While Morris' actions very well may have been driven by her experience of transmisogyny they cannot be said to have been done in the name of trans women, women's autonomy, or of breaking with transmisogyny in general. They were, plainly, an attempt by a scared settler to go home. Crucially, and likely because Morris is a trans woman, this did not work. She was sentenced to 50 years in prison, along with her former comrades, even though her speaking to the pigs led to more of her comrades being caught, including her girlfriend and fellow trans woman Autumn Hill.

Fire Ant and the DFW Committee would have us believe that Morris has realized the reality of her mistake and has committed to non-cooperation going forward. We have no reason to doubt that she has realized she made a mistake, considering her half century sentence. However, we also have no reason to believe that she would not keep talking if promised more leniency, since leniency was clearly her goal in talking to begin with. Here we deal with the sticky problem of white unity.

Unity is a call we see all too often on the left, no matter who you're talking to. Everything ends with a call to unite. The problem though is that settler society is already united. It is united for Black genocide, it is united in its support for imperialism, it is united as a pillar of patriarchal civilization. This unity has to be shattered. This is why we echo *Bottomfish Blues*' call:

> *"What white women have united behind is getting more money for themselves, to put it bluntly. Their own economic advancement is the only common ground that liberals and radical feminists, marriage reformers and lesbian separatists, can agree upon. Sisterhood demands the dis-unity of white women. Demands that women who want to find a way of life without colonialism, whatever the price, break away from those women who intend to profit from colonialism. And i mean colonialism in all senses of the word."*

Remaining united with Meagan Morris and other women who snitch is not an act of feminist solidarity, it is a betrayal of our sisters in the struggle. Fire Ant claims:

> *"We must ask ourselves what we can offer defendants who have erred but have yet to decide whether to continue to assist the state. If we cannot offer those who have begun to cooperate any incentive to stop doing so, that all but ensures that once someone starts cooperating, they will become a permanent addition to the state's arsenal against us."*

In this statement we see the logic of white unity. That because someone could be our comrade they must be our comrade. The reality is entirely the opposite. Once someone cooperates with the state they will be permanently known to the state as a weak point. Morris, through her actions, chose allegiance to the state and to settler parasitism. We therefore cannot choose allegiance to her without betraying everything we claim to fight for. For all the complicating factors buried in this situation it ultimately comes down to a very simple choice.

Amazon Nation or Aryan Nation

Over the course of this circular we have been drawing heavily from the legacy of *Bottomfish Blues*, as we often do. The sisters who anonymously wrote that journal nearly 40 years ago had experience with a revolution that had failed in part because of male supremacy. They learned the hard way what it was like to see your former sisters go back into the arms of the state. For them the choice for radical women was simple: amazon nation or aryan nation? Will we be revolutionary amazons, women who fight for womankind and for the destruction of patriarchal civilization, or will we be aryan women? Up to now this question hasn't been dealt with with any kind of sincerity by the movement, but its time has come.

Meagan Morris is a tragic case. Tragic for what she did to her comrades and tragic for what that demands we do to her, which is isolate and abandon her. Revolution demands hard choices,

forces you into corners and makes you consider things you never wanted to consider. We cannot move forward by denying that reality, only by making the hard choices and refusing to abide collaboration in all its forms can we survive long enough to rebuild a revolutionary movement that can actually get to the finish line.

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